B,

absolute values of the signed differential images of the defect candidates 62F and 63F are less than the second threshold value, the defect candidate map as shown in FIG. 8F is obtained.

## REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the above-identified application by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

A minor amendment is made in the specification at page 16, lines 13 through 27, inserting the step 203, where the "sign differential images" are provided, and inserting reference "step 210", where the comparison is made.

Additionally, enclosed is a Letter to the Patent Office Draftsman requesting correction to Fig. 7 to make it consistent with the description of the operation in the specification. No new matter has been added in the specification or drawing.

Approval of the amendments is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

Bull Pout

Ву

D. Bruce Prout

Reg. No. 20,958

626/795-9900

Enclosure

DBP/djp